(d) the details of employees promoted without vacancies during 1991-93 in the Corporation; and

(e) the post-wise reserved vacancies still existing in NHAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The National Commission for SC/ST vide their letter dated 29.1.98 made certain observations regarding promotion of few SC/ST employees based on the representation of SC/ST employees, which were suitably replied vide IRCC's letter No. 701100 dated 26.2.1998 explaining the factual position.

It is further stated that no communication dated 22.1.1999, from National Commission for SC/ST, has ever been received by IRCC Limited. However, the officers of Commission inspected the office records and 40 point roster on 16.9.96 and expressed their satisfaction.

(d) All the promotions held in IRCC between 1991-93 were made as per approved sanctioned strength and vacancy position reviewed and ratified by the Board, which is the competent authority.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expansion of berths at Visakhapatnam Port

579. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether two more berths are proposed to be added to Visakhapatnam port;

(b) if so, how it would be financed; and

(c) by when the project would be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Through Private participation under BOT basis.

(c) Tenders have already been invited by Visakhapatnam Port

Trust. Further action will be taken immediately after finalising the BOT tenders.

Amendment in Motor Vehicle Act

580. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modify Motor Vehicle Act and change the provisions of issuing licenses in view of incidences of hijacking of IC 814 Indian Airlines Aircraft; and

(b) whether Government confirm the correctness of the residential address of the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Under rule 4 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, provisions have been made for providing evidences in the form of authentic documents such as ration card, passport etc. satisfying the correctness of the address of the applicants of driving licenses. Therefore, no separate confirmation of the correctness of the address is done by the licensing authorities.

Failure to Exploit Tourist Potential on dawn of New Millennium

581. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India missed out on the tourist opportunity of the millennium by failing to exploit the first dawn sunrise in the Andaman and Nicobar Island to attract foreign tourist;

(b) if so, the amount spent on hiring ships etc. and making arrangements for the visit to Katchal Islands for this purpose; and

(c) whether the tourism officials could not make advance propaganda for the occasion?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir. The Govt.